

1

2

3

4

5

6 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
7 **DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

8

9 LLOYD STEVEN BEVERLY, JR.,

10 *Petitioner,*

3:08-cv-00409-ECR-RAM

11 vs.

ORDER

12

13 BILL DONAT, *et al.*,

14 *Respondents.*

15

16 This habeas matter under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 comes before the Court on a *sua sponte*
17 inquiry as to whether the petition is subject to dismissal as a successive petition. This order
18 follows upon the Court's earlier show cause order (#9) and petitioner's response (#10).

19 ***Background***

20 Petitioner Lloyd Steven Beverly, Jr. seeks to challenge his January 2000 judgment of
21 conviction and sentencing thereunder following upon his conviction, pursuant to a jury verdict,
22 of one count of conspiracy to commit burglary, two counts of burglary, one count of attempted
23 burglary, and one count of possession of burglary tools, together with his adjudication as a
24 habitual criminal. It appears from the amended petition and attachments that petitioner was
25 sentenced to three consecutive terms of 60 to 190 months each in prison and two concurrent
26 terms of one year each in jail.

27 Petitioner does not dispute that he previously filed a federal petition in this Court
28 challenging the same judgment of conviction in No. 3:03-cv-00105-ECR-RAM. He further

1 acknowledges that the petition in that matter was denied on the merits and that he has not
2 received permission from the Court of Appeals to file a successive petition. Review of this
3 Court's records in the prior matter confirms that the prior petition was denied on the merits,
4 with final judgment being entered on January 25, 2006. No appeal was taken from the
5 judgment of dismissal. No. 3:03-cv-00105-ECR-RAM, ## 17 & 18.

6 ***Governing Law***

7 Under 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b)(1) & (2), a claim in a "second or successive petition under
8 section 2254" must be dismissed if it was presented in a prior petition; and, if the claim was
9 not presented in the prior petition, it may be considered only in the circumstances delineated
10 in § 2244(b)(2). Under 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b)(3)(A), before a second or successive petition is
11 filed in the district court, the applicant must move in the Court of Appeals for an order
12 authorizing the district court to consider the petition. If an earlier federal petition is dismissed
13 on the merits, any subsequent petition challenging the same judgment of conviction or
14 sentence will constitute a second or successive petition. See, e.g., *Henderson v. Lampert*,
15 396 F.3d 1049, 1052-53 (9th Cir. 2005).

16 ***Discussion***

17 Petitioner has failed to demonstrate that the petition is not subject to dismissal as a
18 successive petition.

19 First, petitioner maintains that he filed the February 2009 amended petition in this
20 matter "pursuant to a previous order of this Court." #10, at 3. Petitioner apparently is referring
21 to the prior preliminary screening order (#5). That order directed petitioner to file an amended
22 petition because petitioner did not sign the original petition, petitioner failed to follow the
23 instructions in the petition form regarding the statement of his claims, petitioner failed to
24 respond to the exhaustion inquiries on the petition form, and petitioner failed to attach copies
25 of all state court written decisions regarding his conviction. The order did not constitute
26 permission from this Court to file a successive petition, and the order merely directed the
27 petitioner to correct multiple pleading deficiencies that would result in the dismissal of the
28 petition "on its face" without regard to any other issues. See #5, at 1, line 22. More to the

1 point, petitioner must obtain permission not from this Court but instead from the Court of
2 Appeals to file a successive petition. This Court does not have the authority to give a
3 petitioner permission to file a successive petition. Indeed, the district court does not have
4 jurisdiction over a successive habeas petition unless petitioner first has obtained permission
5 from the Court of Appeals to file the successive petition. See, e.g., *Cooper v. Calderon*, 274
6 F.3d 1270, 1274-75 (9th Cir. 2001).

7 Second, petitioner maintains that he is actually innocent as to the habitual criminal
8 adjudication because of alleged deficiencies in the habitual criminal adjudication. Such an
9 argument, however, must be presented to the Court of Appeals in the first instance in seeking
10 permission to file a successive petition. The argument does not provide a basis for avoiding
11 the requirement that the petitioner first obtain permission from the Court of Appeals to file a
12 successive petition. See 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b)(2) & (3).

13 Third, petitioner maintains that, because he allegedly is actually innocent as to the
14 habitual criminal adjudication, he therefore can overcome the federal one-year time bar and
15 any other procedural bars. Contrary to the petitioner's assertions, however, this Court did not
16 order petitioner to show cause why the petition should not be dismissed as successive and/or
17 as time-barred. The Court instead ordered the petitioner – at this juncture – to show cause
18 only why the petition should not be dismissed as successive. Petitioner's actual innocence
19 argument must be made to the Court of Appeals in the first instance pursuant to Section
20 2244(b)(2) & (3).

21 The present petition therefore must be dismissed as a successive petition due to
22 petitioner's failure to first secure authorization from the Court of Appeals to file the petition.

23 IT THEREFORE IS ORDERED that the petition shall be DISMISSED without prejudice
24 as a successive petition.

25 IT FURTHER IS ORDERED that, pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section
26 2254 Cases, the Clerk shall serve a copy of this order, the judgment, and the amended
27 petition by sending same by certified mail to the Office of the Attorney General, Criminal
28 Division, 100 North Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701-4717. No response is required.

1 The Clerk of Court shall enter final judgment accordingly, dismissing this action without
2 prejudice.

3 DATED: May 7, 2009
4

5 
6

7 EDWARD C. REED
8 United States District Judge
9

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28